



FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN FEDERAL MARITIME AND HYDROGRAPHIC AGENCY LECTURES AT IMLI

Professor Peter Ehlers (Former President of the German Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency) recently visited IMLI and conducted a class work on “Marine environmental law making” with the students of the Class of 2013/2014.



Professor Peter Ehlers meeting the students of the IMLI Class of 2013/2014

During his discussions, Professor Ehlers used the example of the Helsinki Convention to provide a better understanding of the process of establishing marine environmental laws and of the need for the adoption of the same. Professor Ehlers explained that the Helsinki Convention formulates regulations obliging Contracting Parties to implement and apply appropriate national protection measures and sets up the legal basis for an intergovernmental co-operation. He noted that the

Convention no longer sees the protection of the marine environment only as a matter of reduction of inputs, but covers also nature conservation and biodiversity.

The interactive session offered the students the opportunity to express their own views and bring into the classroom the experience of their own countries in the preparation of marine environmental law.



Professor Peter Ehlers addressing the Class of 2013/2014

Professor Ehlers has long been involved in maritime law affairs. During his notable career he has held various positions in the German Maritime Administration. He started as the Head of Section for Maritime Safety in the North and Baltic Sea and discharged advisory and steering functions in numerous German maritime and scientific institutions. For a long time he worked in the Federal Ministry of Transport, Maritime Department, dealing with maritime safety, pilotage, marine environment protection, hydrography, oceanography, and general management of public administration. In 1987, he was appointed Deputy Director General of the Maritime Department. From 1989 to 2008, Professor Ehlers was the President of Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency.

In addition, Professor Ehlers has an impressive and extensive international experience. He has served in a variety of international bodies, including but not limited to being the Secretary of the Commission of the Baltic Sea Pilotage Authorities, Head of Delegation at MEPC (IMO), Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, Chairman of the Maritime Committee of the Helsinki Commission, Head of Delegation at the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and Member of the IOC Executive Council, and President of the International Hydrographic Conference.

Professor Ehlers is currently the Chair of the Advisory Board for the German Nautical Association, the Advisory Board of the German Association for Marine Technology, the Steering Board, the Linnhoff Offshore Inc and the Maritime Law Foundation in Hamburg.

He is also a Member of the Advisory Board of the German Institute for Navigation, the Board of Directors of International Max-Planck Research School for Maritime Affairs and many more. Moreover, he is known for about 150 publications on matters related to the law of the sea, maritime uses, marine environment protection, and maritime administration.

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